

R E M A R K S

This Amendment accompanying this application is being made to cancel claims 1-12 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter therein and to substitute new claims 13-21 therefor, in order to avoid multiple-dependent claim fees and to place this application in proper form and condition for examination as of the filing of this national stage application. No multiple-dependent claim fees apply.

Therefore no multiple-dependent claim fees should be charged in this application.

The specification has also been amended for formal improvement to comply with USA practice.

An Abstract is presented on a separate page herewith.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter this Amendment prior to calculation of the filing fee as of the national stage filing date, and to provide an action on the merits.

Attached hereto is a marked copy of the changes made to the specification by the current amendment. The attached pages are captioned "Version with markings to show changes made"

The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter this Preliminary Amendment prior to calculation of the filing fee as of the national stage filing date, and to provide an action on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR SECTION 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that the accompanying Preliminary Amendment is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on June 28, 2002.

Dated: June 28, 2002

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USA PCT National Stage Patent Application
PCT/EP00/08290 filed August 25, 2000
Bernd Laudi, et al
Serial No.:
First Submission filed February 19, 2002
FLAMMABLE MASS

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, Line 3, before this line and after the title insert the following paragraph heading:

Page 1, please replace the paragraph beginning at line 34 with the following rewritten paragraph and paragraph heading:

This object is achieved with the subject matter [of Claim 1] which relates to a flammable mass of paraffin having inorganic particles disposed in a homogeneous distribution in paraffin. According to the invention, it has been revealed that a fine distribution of inorganic particles in the paraffin makes this flammable at the surface. It is known for burning paraffin, that is to say in the case of candles, to place a wick in the paraffin. This has proved to be no longer necessary if, as described, inorganic particles are disposed in a homogeneous distribution in the paraffin. To this extent it is even possible, by concentrating the particles only in a central region of a candle, thin in the manner of a wick, to replace a customary wick by this. In this specific example the invention also comprises a candle thus formed. A number of possibilities are provided with respect to the particles. They can be, in particular, silicic

acid particles, specifically silica. The size of the particles can vary. However, preferably, the size is in the range of fractions of millimetres down to nanometres. In contrast, the size can also be selected to have an upper limit up to the millimetre range. Specifically, a range can be provided, for example, (situated in the lower part of the abovementioned spectrum) from 7×10^{-3} to $7 \times 10^{-2} \mu\text{m}$. In order, in this regard, to obtain the sought-after mass (paraffin character, coherent mass, no powder characteristics), the weight ratio of paraffin to silicic acid should be greater than or equal to 80 (paraffin) to 20 (silicic acid). "Paraffin" is here chosen to be representative of all other variants mentioned below.